OAL FILE NUMBER: Z-04-1123-01 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING TO ADOPT PROPOSED REGULATIONS

BUSINESS MEETING

BEFORE THE

CALIFORNIA ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION

AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

| In | the | Matter of: |) |
|-----|------|------------|---|
| | | |) |
| Bus | ines | ss Meeting |) |
| | | |) |
| | | |) |

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

HEARING ROOM A

1516 NINTH STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2005 10:06 A.M.

Reported by:
Peter Petty
Contract No. 150-04-001

PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345

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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Jackalyne Pfannenstiel, Acting Chairperson

Arthur Rosenfeld

James D. Boyd

John Geesman

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Matthews, Acting Executive Director

William Chamberlain, Chief Counsel

Song Her, Secretariat

Roger Johnson

Gary Fay

Sue Kateley

Gordon Schremp

Tom Glaviano

Elaine Hebert

Dick Ratliff

Adam Pan

Barbara Byron

Nancy Libonati

Joe O'Hagan

Guido Franco

Caryn Holmes

Mike Jaske

Kevin Kennedy

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PUBLIC ADVISER

Nick Bartsch

ALSO PRESENT

Chris Ellison, Attorney Ellison, Schneider and Harris, LLP

Steven Kelly
Independent Energy Producers Association

Scott Galati, Attorney representing Roseville Energy Park

Bob Hren Roseville Energy Park

Gina Grey
Western States Petroleum Association

David A. Smith bp America, Inc.

Jay McKeeman California Independent Oil Marketers Association

Ronald M. Van De Pol Van De Pol Enterprises, Inc.

Craig Lease L&L Suppliers Stockton Roofing

Gregory S.G. Klatt, Attorney Douglass and Liddell representing APS Energy

Greggory L. Wheatland, Attorney Ellison, Schneider and Harris, LLP

Mona Tierney
Constellation NewEnergy

Jennifer Chamberlin Strategic Energy

Laura Genao Southern California Edison Company

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ALSO PRESENT

Christopher J. Warner, Attorney Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Joseph Kloberdanz San Diego Gas and Electric Sempra Energy Utilities

Stuart Hemphill Southern California Edison Company

Kevin Woodruff Woodruff Expert Services

Randy Howard
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (via teleconference)

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PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345

PROCEEDINGS 1 2 10:06 a.m. 3 ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: The 4 meeting will come to order. Pledge, Commissioner 5 Geesman. 6 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.) ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Good Я morning. Before we start the business meeting I'd like to make a change to the order of the agenda. 10 We have items 12 through 17, all of 11 12 which deal with a common subject, which is the 13 appeal of the confidentiality rulings. And I'd 14 like to take them all as a group after we've gone 15 through the remainder of the agenda and the 16 reports. So we'll go all through everything else on the business meeting and then take up numbers 17 18 12 through 17.

[BUSINESS MEETING ITEMS NOT RELATED TO THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY INFORMATION ACT HAVE BEEN REDACTED FROM THIS COPY OF THE TRANSCRIPT]

| 21 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Item |
|----|--|
| 22 | 3, Petroleum Industry Information Reporting Act. |
| 23 | Possible adoption of proposed amendments to the |
| 24 | Petroleum Industry Information Reporting Act |
| 25 | regulations published as express terms of proposed |

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PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345

| 1 | regulations dated March 16, 2005. Ms. Kateley. |
|----|--|
| 2 | MS. KATELEY: Thank you, ViceChair |
| 3 | Pfannenstiel and Commissioners. My name is Sue |
| 4 | Kateley and I work in the transportation fuels |
| 5 | office here at the Energy Commission. |
| 6 | The item before you is a rulemaking to |
| 7 | add new reporting requirements to the Energy |
| 8 | Commission's petroleum industry information |
| 9 | reporting act regulations. |
| 10 | This proposal is the first modification |
| 11 | since the early 1980s. The proposed changes will |
| 12 | expand the type of data reported, increase the |
| 13 | number of participants required to report |
| 14 | information to the Commission. It also increases |
| 15 | the number of companies that must file weekly, |
| 16 | monthly and annual reports. |
| 17 | The reporting requirements in these |
| 18 | regulations are based on new statute added to the |
| 19 | Public Resources Code in 2000 and 2003. |
| 20 | The Energy Commission will use this |
| 21 | information to analyze the cause and conditions |
| 22 | that lead or may lead to problems with fuel |
| 23 | supplies or fuel prices. This data is important |
| 24 | to developing state policies that can alleviate |
| 25 | problems, and also to assess proposed policies for |

| 1 | their potential effect on supplies and prices. |
|----|--|
| 2 | It also helps to provide informed |
| 3 | responses to inquiries from members of the public, |
| 4 | the Legislature and the Governor. |
| 5 | Last and perhaps most important, this |
| 6 | information can be used in the event of |
| 7 | emergencies, local, statewide and in neighboring |
| 8 | states. I mention neighboring states because |
| 9 | California is important to Arizona and Nevada fuel |
| 10 | supplies. |
| 11 | I will briefly summarize the changes. |
| 12 | The new weekly reporting requirements collect |
| 13 | information on production, inventory, shipments |
| 14 | and wholesale prices. The Energy Commission also |
| 15 | receives information on weekly wholesale |
| 16 | deliveries and prices in the major regions of |
| 17 | California. These companies are refiners, |
| 18 | importers, exporters, pipeline operators and |
| 19 | terminal operators. |
| 20 | The new monthly reporting requirements |
| 21 | apply to the same companies reporting weekly data |
| 22 | and approximately 80 additional companies. The |
| 23 | monthly reporting requirement is similar to the |
| 24 | weekly data, but applies to a larger population of |
| 25 | companies and is more accurate than weekly |

| reports. |
|--|
| Those additional companies require to |
| report, by the way, are marketers who sell 20,000 |
| barrels of fuel, that is 840,000 gallons of fuel, |
| a month. |
| Both the weekly and monthly reports |
| provide information that can be used to estimate |
| demand, determine wholesale price trends, evaluate |
| constraints on distribution and storage, volumes |
| of product shipped, and average wholesale prices. |
| The new annual reports added by these |
| proposed regulations provide information on |
| storage facilities in California and retail |
| fueling stations. This information is |
| particularly important in light of projections |
| indicating California will become more dependent |
| on imported products to meet its transportation |
| needs. |
| The retail station information will be |
| used, for example, in assessing regional supply |
| and price effects, policy proposals that may |
| restrict retail ownership arrangements. |
| During the 45-day comment period three |
| parties filed comments. The Western States |
| Petroleum Association; the California Independent |
| |

| 1 | Oil Marketers Association; and the Coalition for a |
|----|--|
| 2 | Safer Environment. |
| 3 | While staff was able to incorporate many |
| 4 | of the comments we are aware that there continue |
| 5 | to be areas of concern. CIOMA suggested that the |
| 6 | retail fueling station information is already |
| 7 | publicly available. We have researched this |
| 8 | extensively and found that while some data is |
| 9 | available it is incomplete and could not be used |
| 10 | to replace this reporting requirement. |
| 11 | WSPA asked that the Commission use |
| 12 | either weekly or monthly reporting to reduce |
| 13 | reporting of redundant information. The monthly |
| 14 | and weekly data requirements are not the same. |
| 15 | The information collected on the weekly and |
| 16 | monthly forms is markedly different. |
| 17 | Although there is some similarity in |
| 18 | both weekly and monthly reports reflecting total |
| 19 | product volumes and prices, depending on the |
| 20 | report, they are not similar in that monthly data |
| 21 | cannot provide trends and patterns on weekly |
| 22 | prices, productions and shipments. These trends |
| 23 | and patterns are critical to understanding |
| 24 | constraints that may be of a seasonal nature or |
| 25 | result of a brief interruption in supply or drop |

| 1 | in inventory. |
|----|--|
| 2 | Weekly data is reported within a few |
| 3 | days of the end of the week cycle. Monthly data |
| 4 | is reported as much as 30 days after the close of |
| 5 | the month. Last, monthly data is reconciled with |
| 6 | other monthly data sources and cannot be |
| 7 | substituted with the weekly reports. |
| 8 | CIOMA asked to exclude major marketers |
| 9 | from reporting their monthly sales, volumes and |
| 10 | prices. They have indicated that there will be |
| 11 | hardships related to the cost of reprogramming |
| 12 | custom software. The information on sales volumes |
| 13 | and prices that occurs through independent |
| 14 | companies versus refinery operators is important |
| 15 | to analyzing price and supply issues and trends. |
| 16 | The companies required to report as a |
| 17 | result of the proposed regulations are the same |
| 18 | companies that are already required to file a |
| 19 | similar report with the Federal Energy Information |
| 20 | Administration. |
| 21 | The industry also expressed concerns |
| 22 | that the forms were not part of the rulemaking. |
| 23 | The Administrative Procedures Act exempts forms |
| 24 | and instructions, however staff has made draft |
| 25 | forms and instructions available, help workshops |
| | |

| 1 | and met with industry to take comment on them |
|----|--|
| 2 | outside of the rulemaking. |
| 3 | As a result of those interactions staff |
| 4 | has changed the forms and instructions. Once the |
| 5 | rulemaking is complete, draft forms and |
| 6 | instructions will be made available again for |
| 7 | review and comment before they're final. |
| 8 | Before I finish I would like to mention |
| 9 | that the industry has been cooperative throughout |
| 10 | this process and they've worked with us on getting |
| 11 | it right. We really appreciate their input. |
| 12 | We have narrowed the differences through |
| 13 | productive discussions and exchanges of |
| 14 | information. We would be happy to respond to any |
| 15 | questions. Joining me to respond to questions is |
| 16 | Gordon Schremp, our Senior Staff Specialist on |
| 17 | crude oil and petroleum product issues; and Tom |
| 18 | Glaviano from the General Counsel's Office. |
| 19 | Thank you for your consideration. |
| 20 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank |
| 21 | you, Ms. Kateley. We have a number of parties who |
| 22 | have requested to speak on this time. So why |
| 23 | don't we hear their comments. Gina Grey. |
| 24 | MS. GREY: Thank you, Madam Chair, |
| 25 | Commissioners and Staff. For the record my name |
| | |

| 1 | is Gina Grey. I work for the Western States |
|----|--|
| 2 | Petroleum Association, commonly known as WSPA. |
| 3 | Overall WSPA can understand the need to |
| 4 | balance the sharing of information with government |
| 5 | in order to allow a better comprehension of our |
| 6 | industry, with a need to minimize intrusion into |
| 7 | private business matters and decisionmaking. |
| 8 | In return we hope the CEC understands |
| 9 | and recognizes the level of burden this kind of |
| 10 | detailed reporting places on our industry in terms |
| 11 | of the commitment of resources. It is not as |
| 12 | minor as often portrayed. |
| 13 | We do appreciate the Commission's |
| 14 | stakeholder process and staff attempts to work |
| 15 | with our industry on the amendments, especially |
| 16 | Sue Kateley's efforts. We also appreciate the |
| 17 | additional confidentiality provisions dealing with |
| 18 | situations where more informal submittal takes |
| 19 | place. |
| 20 | As you are well aware our industry |
| 21 | considers the kind of information requested in |
| 22 | these reports as highly confidential. And we hope |
| 23 | that government employees, both regular and |
| 24 | contract, are made familiar with these |
| 25 | confidentiality provisions. |

| 1 | We want to insure the CEC is committed |
|----|---|
| 2 | to working closely with our industry on actual |
| 3 | forms and guidelines. The specific report forms |
| 4 | were not included as an appendix to the |
| 5 | regulations as part of this review. And although |
| 6 | we are told this is not customarily done, we are |
| 7 | still concerned that staff is working on revising |
| 8 | the September of '04 forms and want to insure we |
| 9 | can review and comment on them before they are |
| 10 | finalized and adopted. And I think from Sue's |
| 11 | comments just a moment ago it sounds like that |
| 12 | will take place. |
| 13 | Also we encourage the continuation of |
| 14 | private meetings or tutorials with individual |
| 15 | companies to help insure full compliance, since |
| 16 | the requirements are very detailed and complex, |
| 17 | reflecting the complexity of our industry's |
| 18 | operations. |
| 19 | Some of our members may not have geared |
| 20 | up internally for the formal reporting since they |
| 21 | may have elected to not participate in the |
| 22 | voluntary reporting over the past year. We would |
| 23 | appreciate any flexibility the Commission can |
| 24 | provide during the transition phase into full |
| 25 | reporting over a several-month period of time. |

| 1 | The majority of our 13 pages of |
|----|--|
| 2 | previously submitted comments have been |
| 3 | incorporated or dealt with in some fashion by |
| 4 | staff. There are still, however, a number of |
| 5 | outstanding issues we have concern with and I'll |
| 6 | mention three in particular. |
| 7 | First, we have repeatedly observed to |
| 8 | staff that the proposed monthly requested |
| 9 | information was almost the same and I know Sue |
| 10 | mentioned they're not identical, which we agree |
| 11 | with as that requested weekly. Therefore, we |
| 12 | suggested in our January comments that the monthly |
| 13 | reports be eliminated and that the Commission use |
| 14 | slightly expanded weekly reports to capture the |
| 15 | required information. |
| 16 | CEC Staff responded that since the month |
| 17 | doesn't normally end at the end of a week, they |
| 18 | didn't want to prorate the last week's data to |
| 19 | calculate a monthly report. Staff's official |
| 20 | response failed to include this concern, but quote |
| 21 | that EIA believes the monthly data is more |
| 22 | accurate or better, and is useful for more in- |
| 23 | depth review. |
| 24 | We question this new rationale for |
| 25 | retaining the monthly reports. The weekly |
| | |

| 1 | information is the most timely and likely the most |
|----|--|
| 2 | useful to the Commission. Limited company assets |
| 3 | should be focused on collecting and reporting the |
| 4 | best weekly information possible. |
| 5 | Although the monthly data may be |
| 6 | slightly more accurate for any individual company |
| 7 | for a specific report period, there is no evidence |
| 8 | that supports the idea that the monthly data is |
| 9 | any better for purposes of evaluating short- or |
| 10 | long-term trends, evaluating seasonal differences |
| 11 | or making future projections. |
| 12 | The alleged improvement in monthly data |
| 13 | quality doesn't justify the significant |
| 14 | duplication of effort to report the monthly |
| 15 | information. We therefore request again that the |
| 16 | monthly reports be elimination, except for one |
| 17 | major exception I will speak about in a minute. |
| 18 | At a minimum we would request that the |
| 19 | Commission direct the staff to report back to the |
| 20 | Commission, in a six-month period after obtaining |
| 21 | the new weekly and monthly information, with an |
| 22 | evaluation of whether or not the monthly reports |
| 23 | are really that much better and useful, and to |
| 24 | justify the continued duplication of reporting |
| 25 | effort. |

| 1 | Second. Relative to DTW reporting. |
|----|--|
| 2 | While WSPA has no knowledge or information on the |
| 3 | particular pricing policies or practices of our |
| 4 | members, we believe there may be important |
| 5 | differences in the way individual companies handle |
| 6 | such matters as rent, rebates and other price- |
| 7 | related issues. |
| 8 | WSPA has indicated several times now in |
| 9 | written and oral comments that our companies are |
| 10 | concerned about the mandatory weekly DTW |
| 11 | reporting. |
| 12 | Our first concern has to do with the |
| 13 | usefulness of the new data requirement which |
| 14 | mandates a volume balanced calculation on a weekly |
| 15 | basis. DTW pricing practices vary between market |
| 16 | participants. As stated in our comments, we |
| 17 | believe this calculation does not capture what is |
| 18 | actually going on in the marketplace, as the DTW |
| 19 | invoice may or may not reflect the actual cost to |
| 20 | the dealer given the application of rebates, |
| 21 | volume discounts, rent and other competitive |
| 22 | adjustments that may occur on an individual |
| 23 | company basis. |
| 24 | Also, the sales volume information |
| 25 | needed for the requested volume-adjusted DTW |

| weekly reports has a two- to three-day lag from |
|--|
| the actual DTW pricing information. This lag time |
| between the data sources availability raises |
| questions about the accuracy of the truing up |
| calculations of the submitted information. This |
| is especially true with weekly submittals where a |
| three-day lag could distort the final numbers. |
| Monthly submittals of the weighted information |
| significantly smooth out these distortions and |
| allow for a more accurate data set. |
| We found the CEC's response to comments |
| document unsatisfactory in its response to our |
| concerns. The CEC's response waives their comment |
| by stating that the Public Resources Code requires |
| weekly and monthly data to be reported to the |
| Energy Commission. But we believe the DTW needs |
| special consideration. WSPA's request is that the |
| DTW information and volume calculations be |
| required on a monthly basis rather than weekly. |
| Third. WSPA commented in January on the |
| new requirement for refiners to file flow diagrams |
| and site maps annually. The actual requirement is |
| to annually submit flow diagrams of the refinery |
| showing process units, interconnecting lines, |
| input/output streams, tank farms, location of |
| |

| tanks, pipeline connections, marine facilities, et |
|--|
| cetera, et cetera, et cetera. All clearly labeled |
| with the capacity or actual rates being shown. |
| There is also a mention of site maps being to |
| scale. |
| This requirement had not previously been |
| discussed with our industry and has caused a |
| significant degree of concern. The concern is |
| based on a number of factors, not the least of |
| which is the additional burden of supplying all of |
| this information. Another very real concern is |
| the security threat to our facilities and the |
| associated risks of this type of information |
| getting into the wrong hands, even with the |
| agency's established confidentiality procedures. |
| The CEC Staff response alluded to the |
| fact there is already a requirement to file |
| pipeline maps and specs in the existing |
| regulations. We can find no existing requirement |
| for refiners, however. We also can't find any |
| basis in statute for this. And I will not go into |
| all of our detailed comments on this, but will |
| probably provide that to Sue at a later time. |
| And last, a very minor comment relative |
| to distribution of nonCalifornia fuels, and this |
| |

| can probably be handled later, too. But a |
|--|
| clarification is needed regarding whether trucks |
| can be aggregated as in 3F and G. |
| Thank you very much. |
| ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank |
| you. Questions? |
| COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Madam Chair. |
| ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Yes, |
| Commissioner Geesman. |
| COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I wanted to |
| follow up on your comments about confidentiality. |
| And as I think you know, I have a 19-year gap in |
| my personal recollection of the Commission's |
| experience in this area, but are you aware of any |
| instance where there has been a breach by our |
| employees or contractors of our confidentiality |
| requirements? |
| MS. GREY: Good question. I would |
| respond, Commissioner, by saying that no, we don't |
| have any examples at this point in time. I think |
| staff have been, by and large, very good regarding |
| confidentiality. |
| There is always, however, of a high |
| degree of |
| |

COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Sure.

| 1 | MS. GREY: concern in our industry |
|----|--|
| 2 | regarding |
| 3 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I understand. |
| 4 | MS. GREY: this. It's not just with |
| 5 | the California Energy Commission, it's with any |
| 6 | kind of very competitively sensitive data being |
| 7 | put in government's hands. You do have contract |
| 8 | staff, not only just regular staff, who handle |
| 9 | this material. And it's a huge concern of ours |
| 10 | which actually was one of the reasons why we did |
| 11 | work with staff to incorporate more of a |
| 12 | confidentiality protection relative to data that |
| 13 | is supplied on a voluntary basis, or maybe done |
| 14 | over the phone, et cetera, as not part of regular |
| 15 | reporting. |
| 16 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I think your |
| 17 | concern is appropriate, and I had thought that our |
| 18 | record was pretty good and |
| 19 | MS. GREY: Correct. |
| 20 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I'm happy to |
| 21 | hear you corroborate it. |
| 22 | MS. GREY: It has been. |
| 23 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank |
| 24 | you, Ms. Grey. Would the staff like to comment on |
| 25 | a couple any of the points that Ms. Grey |
| | |

| 1 | raised? |
|----|--|
| 2 | MS. KATELEY: Gordon. |
| 3 | MR. SCHREMP: My name is Gordon Schremp. |
| 4 | I'm the senior fuels specialist on staff in the |
| 5 | fuels office of the California Energy Commission. |
| 6 | Thank you for the opportunity to shed |
| 7 | some additional information on these issues that |
| 8 | were raised by Gina Grey. |
| 9 | The monthly versus weekly issue has been |
| 10 | raised before. I just want to point out that |
| 11 | weekly and monthly reporting requirements, as well |
| 12 | as annual reporting requirements, have been part |
| 13 | of our data collection and data collection efforts |
| 14 | at the federal level, the EIA or Energy |
| 15 | Information Administration, for decades. |
| 16 | So we have a long history of collecting |
| 17 | information on a weekly and monthly basis. And |
| 18 | the industry has an excellent record of providing |
| 19 | said information up to this point in time, and |
| 20 | including this point in time. |
| 21 | The information is different, as Gina |
| 22 | Grey points out. In many cases it's markedly |
| 23 | different on a weekly and monthly basis. Usually |
| 24 | the monthly forms for refiners have much more |
| 25 | extensive reporting requirements on the types of |
| | |

| 1 | products produced versus the weekly form, which is |
|----|--|
| 2 | a simplified version. |
| 3 | With regard to our new forms, such as |
| 4 | import/exports, interstate movements, the monthly |
| 5 | forms are more detailed than the weekly forms. We |
| 6 | have simplified the weekly forms based on |
| 7 | discussions with industry because much of the |
| 8 | information we were requiring on the monthly forms |
| 9 | was unable to be obtained in the short term as |
| 10 | required to report weekly information to staff, |
| 11 | which is why we responded and simplified that form |
| 12 | and put some of the information back on the |
| 13 | monthly form to respond to those concerns. |
| 14 | So that new form actually has very different data |
| 15 | requirements on a weekly and monthly basis. |
| 16 | I think the other points were raised on |
| 17 | the close of the period, end-of-month inventories, |
| 18 | reconciliation cannot be done with a weekly form |
| 19 | versus a monthly form. We usually do as the |
| 20 | federal government does, a lot of analysis of |
| 21 | historical data. That information can easily be |
| 22 | compared when looking at months in previous years. |
| 23 | And that same comparison is not as valid on a |
| 24 | weekly basis. |
| 25 | So those are some of the main points I'd |
| | |

| 1 | like to add to the discussion on weekly versus |
|----|--|
| 2 | monthly. |
| 3 | The dealer tank wagon reporting |
| 4 | purposes. I think Sue mentioned that we have been |
| 5 | getting interim compliance by the companies. The |
| 6 | companies have done a fabulous job. And they have |
| 7 | been able to report this information on a weekly |
| 8 | basis. And they should be commended for that. |
| 9 | We do understand the discounts and |
| 10 | discounts is a relative term. The companies have |
| 11 | various ways of discounting or rebating some of |
| 12 | the cost of the DTW or dealer tank wagon price. |
| 13 | And that can only be done after the monthly sales |
| 14 | have closed for specific sites. So we understand |
| 15 | it's difficult for them to do that on a weekly |
| 16 | basis. So we've recognized that and we try, when |
| 17 | we use this information, to recognize that all of |
| 18 | these discounts are not accurately captured. So |
| 19 | the apparent dealer margins are lower than they |
| 20 | actually should be. |
| 21 | With regard to the flow diagrams and the |
| 22 | site maps, previously discussed or highlighted in |
| 23 | a workshop, no. As part of the regulation |
| 24 | language that has been reviewed on multiple |
| 25 | occasions by the stakeholders, yes, it has been in |

| 1 | there. And we have received some comments, as |
|----|--|
| 2 | Gina has shared with us today. |
| 3 | I think we do have an excellent track |
| 4 | record regarding keeping confidential information |
| 5 | inhouse and not having it released. I think that |
| 6 | was a very good question by Commissioner Geesman. |
| 7 | The difficulty in obtaining information, |
| 8 | site diagrams, flow diagrams are information that |
| 9 | in almost all cases is provided in public |
| 10 | documents concerning environmental impact reports, |
| 11 | environmental impact statements when companies go |
| 12 | to expand a refinery, do an expansion of a tank |
| 13 | farm. So, we've seen similar information. What |
| 14 | we're asking for is that information, ourselves. |
| 15 | The difference is we're keeping that information |
| 16 | confidential inhouse. |
| 17 | The flow diagrams, I think the |
| 18 | difference that should be pointed out, we are |
| 19 | looking at, and it was accurately mentioned, the |
| 20 | interconnection and the capacities and the actual |
| 21 | utilizations or throughputs, excuse me. And |
| 22 | this is so that we can do utilization assessments |
| 23 | of the process units of the refineries. This is |
| 24 | part of our ongoing infrastructure work, as is the |
| 25 | site maps, plot maps for the marine |

| 1 | infrastructures, the refineries and the tank farms |
|----|--|
| 2 | that is also part of our ongoing analysis for |
| 3 | petroleum infrastructure. And we think that's one |
| 4 | of the reasons why we believe we need this |
| 5 | information. |
| 6 | MS. KATELEY: The last point that WSPA |
| 7 | mentioned was whether or not we could aggregate |
| 8 | the nonCalifornia truck values, and we can work |
| 9 | with them on that. We're looking for the total |
| 10 | volumes, not the per-truckload volumes. |
| 11 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank |
| 12 | you. |
| 13 | MR. SCHREMP: Yeah, and |
| 14 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: If |
| 15 | there's another point to be made, otherwise I |
| 16 | think we should move on to the other speakers who |
| 17 | have asked to comment on this. Dave Smith from bp |
| 18 | ARCO. |
| 19 | MR. SMITH: Thank you. Dave Smith with |
| 20 | bp. We sell petroleum products through ARCO |
| 21 | service stations throughout the state. |
| 22 | First off, I would like to echo Gina's |
| 23 | comments about the appreciation to CEC Staff for |
| 24 | their efforts. I am representing bp, and the |
| 25 | comments, although generally supportive of WSPA's, |

| 1 | would like to focus in on one other comment which |
|----|--|
| 2 | was about the duplication of effort that the staff |
| 3 | is asking us to do relative to the weekly reports |
| 4 | and monthly reports. |
| 5 | Kind of as a matter of principle, we |
| 6 | support the goals and objectives of this rule, and |
| 7 | having the agency have the adequate information to |
| 8 | do what you need to do. We value that. We even |
| 9 | hold up the Energy Commission to other states as |
| 10 | examples of how they should consider running their |
| 11 | programs. |
| 12 | Having said that, although we support |
| 13 | giving you this information, we, in principle, are |
| 14 | concerned when we have to report it twice, so to |
| 15 | speak. And with all due respect to the staff, and |
| 16 | I do respect them immensely, the four forms in |
| 17 | question in some cases are exactly the same. |
| 18 | The four forms, and I hate to get into |
| 19 | this kind of detail, but just to make the point, |
| 20 | the W900 forms and the M900 forms, other than the |
| 21 | reporting period, are exactly the same. |
| 22 | The other two forms, the 700 series and |
| 23 | the 08 series, are very similar in the type of |
| 24 | information required. I'd say, looking through |
| 25 | each of the forms, that at least 70 or 80 percent |

| 1 | of the information is exactly the same. |
|----|--|
| 2 | In the case of our company, actually |
| 3 | because of our activities, the differences between |
| 4 | the weekly and monthly forms are very small. |
| 5 | Probably less than 5 percent. |
| 6 | And there is one form that there is a |
| 7 | considerable difference, and that has to do with |
| 8 | the refineries weekly and monthly forms. And |
| 9 | they, in fact, do the refinery does have to |
| 10 | submit additional information on a monthly basis, |
| 11 | but the refinery's a distinct unit and actually |
| 12 | our proposal, WSPA's proposal, was not to |
| 13 | eliminate any of the data from being reported to |
| 14 | you, it was just that we wouldn't duplicate the |
| 15 | reporting. So that if there was information that |
| 16 | you needed, we would provide it to you on a weekly |
| 17 | basis, and eliminate entirely the three or four |
| 18 | monthly reports. There are still two or three |
| 19 | other monthly reports that we wouldn't object to. |
| 20 | So let me kind of conclude these remarks |
| 21 | by saying that our evaluation is that because of |
| 22 | these rules we're going to be submitting about |
| 23 | 1200 forms to you each year. The amount of |
| 24 | reporting is going to increase for us probably |
| 25 | three to four times, if not more. |

| 1 | We have been me, personally have |
|----|--|
| 2 | been one of your biggest supporters and for the |
| 3 | roles that you have played. The suggested change |
| 4 | that we're suggesting to you would reduce the |
| 5 | amount of reporting forms by roughly 15 percent. |
| 6 | I don't think that's an unreasonable request. |
| 7 | So, again, we would like to suggest that |
| 8 | the staff consider some way eliminating having to |
| 9 | report the same essential information in |
| 10 | duplicate, or essentially the same information. |
| 11 | One way would be to eliminate the |
| 12 | monthly forms in question. One way would be to |
| 13 | revise the monthly forms so that you wouldn't have |
| 14 | to report that information that you've already |
| 15 | reported on the weekly forms. Or, you know, maybe |
| 16 | the most flexibility, which may not be something |
| 17 | that you'd be open to, is let the refineries |
| 18 | choose. |
| 19 | In the case of bp and most of the WSPA |
| 20 | comments that were submitted, we were willing to |
| 21 | submit this information to you on a weekly basis |
| 22 | which would give you more information, weekly |
| 23 | basis, more timely. And the only thing we're |
| 24 | asking for is that you'd eliminate the monthly |
| 25 | reports. |

| 1 | Now, the second comment I would have, |
|----|--|
| 2 | I'd just summarize to say that bp definitely |
| 3 | appreciates the staff's support and work on this |
| 4 | rule. We set up a tutorial situation where some |
| 5 | of their staff came down and helped the people who |
| 6 | are actually going to fill out these forms and |
| 7 | prepare the computer programs to understand |
| 8 | exactly what was going to be required. And that |
| 9 | has been very helpful for us as a company. And |
| 10 | hopefully those type of activities can continue to |
| 11 | help make the implementation smooth and effective |
| 12 | for both of us. |
| 13 | And I'd love to entertain any questions. |
| 14 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: |
| 15 | Commissioner Geesman. |
| 16 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I'm having a hard |
| 17 | time figuring out what's at stake here. Why do |
| 18 | you think the staff has such an attachment to the |
| 19 | monthly reporting cycle? |
| 20 | MR. SMITH: Well, they have given us two |
| 21 | reasons. One is that originally they said that |
| 22 | they do have some of their information on a |
| 23 | monthly basis and they'd like to be able to |
| 24 | compare that in the future with historical |
| 25 | information. |

| 1 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: That sounds |
|----|--|
| 2 | reasonable. |
| 3 | MR. SMITH: Reasonable. And so we |
| 4 | suggested, well, there's no reason why you can't |
| 5 | take the weekly information and create a pseudo |
| 6 | monthly report. |
| 7 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: And they said |
| 8 | they had some concerns about the adjustment factor |
| 9 | there. They'd probably rather hear it from the |
| 10 | company than do their |
| 11 | MR. SMITH: That's right. |
| 12 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: own internal |
| 13 | adjusting. |
| 14 | MR. SMITH: And we responded by saying |
| 15 | that, you know, the amount of variation, you know, |
| 16 | trying to create these pseudo monthly reports |
| 17 | would create minimal errors and would probably |
| 18 | have, in our opinion, would have little to no |
| 19 | effect on the purposes of collecting the data and |
| 20 | using it in the way that the Energy Commission |
| 21 | Staff does. |
| 22 | So we had thought that we had addressed |
| 23 | that, and actually in the written comments, |
| 24 | written response, they didn't include that reason |
| 25 | They suggested that the monthly reports were more |
| | |

| 1 | accurate and could be more useful for in-depth |
|----|--|
| 2 | analysis. |
| 3 | And I guess I'd have to say that |
| 4 | certainly given the fact that the monthly reports |
| 5 | don't actually have to be turned in until 30 days |
| 6 | after the end of the month I guess that's right |
| 7 | that, you know, arguably they may be |
| 8 | incrementally more accurate; we have more chances |
| 9 | to compare. |
| 10 | But, you know, for bp, we would be |
| 11 | really concerned if our weekly reports didn't, you |
| 12 | know, coincide with our monthly reports. In fact, |
| 13 | as we've been talking about how we're going to |
| 14 | comply with these rules, we've said we have to |
| 15 | check. I mean it would be kind of shame on us if |
| 16 | we started, you know, if we reported four or five |
| 17 | weekly reports, and then at the end of the month |
| 18 | we gave a monthly report with fairly significant |
| 19 | different numbers. |
| 20 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Yeah, but you've |
| 21 | got to acknowledge your company's probably a |
| 22 | little higher up the food chain than some of the |
| 23 | other reporting entities. |
| 24 | MR. SMITH: Certainly, you could very |
| 25 | well say that. But I think that companies are |

| 1 | going to have to deal with these on a case-by-case |
|----|--|
| 2 | basis. And I think that many companies that are |
| 3 | maybe not up as far the food chain as we are, |
| 4 | using your words, will probably be doing these |
| 5 | forms manually. And, you know, they'll have the |
| 6 | data on their desk right at the time. They'll |
| 7 | fill out the weekly report, and they want to get |
| 8 | it off and get out of the way and go on to doing |
| 9 | their business, not having to worry about, you |
| 10 | know, here comes some monthly report. Gee, I'm |
| 11 | going to have to do the same thing I just did last |
| 12 | week. When I have to pull out my old weekly |
| 13 | reports and basically use them to complete the |
| 14 | monthly report. |
| 15 | So, I mean to us this is probably a |
| 16 | matter of principle more than anything else. We |
| 17 | think we work with the staff; we've supported the |
| 18 | staff; we've supported the CEC. And we're |
| 19 | suggesting what we would consider a modest change, |
| 20 | and not an unreasonable one. |
| 21 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: But it only |
| 22 | diminishes the number of forms your company has to |
| 23 | submit by 15 percent. So, I'm left trying |
| 24 | MR. SMITH: You know, I'm |
| 25 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: to balance |
| | |

| 1 | your interest in a 15 percent reduction and the |
|----|--|
| 2 | staff, I presume, is going to say we really need |
| 3 | this information. |
| 4 | I thought Gina had a novel idea. Maybe |
| 5 | we ought to check back after some period of time |
| 6 | as to whether we're using the information well or |
| 7 | not. |
| 8 | MR. SMITH: Well, actually I'm glad that |
| 9 | Gina brought that up, because that was one of the |
| 10 | suggestions I had. Unfortunately, I'm the one who |
| 11 | has to go to the terminal operators, the people |
| 12 | who do this, the computer people are going to |
| 13 | report it. And certainly, if that's the outcome, |
| 14 | to say okay, let's try this for six months to see |
| 15 | how much better quality these monthly reports are. |
| 16 | What advantage does this give the staff as |
| 17 | compared to the weekly reports. We'll do that. |
| 18 | I can tell you we'll, probably for those |
| 19 | six months, probably look at doing them manually, |
| 20 | those particular forms, until we finally resolve |
| 21 | the issue of whether or not we're going to do this |
| 22 | long term of not. Because the computer people |
| 23 | aren't going to want to make those changes, you |
| 24 | know, and then have to reverse it. |
| 25 | I think, as an alternative, it may be |

| 1 | that to look specifically at the data that is |
|----|--|
| 2 | reported on a weekly and monthly basis exactly. |
| 3 | Because there are differences. But, you know, I |
| 4 | would disagree respectfully with Gordon that I |
| 5 | don't think those differences are that |
| 6 | significant. |
| 7 | But if there are differences and you |
| 8 | want to see those on a monthly basis, those |
| 9 | greater reporting requirements, put those on the |
| 10 | monthly reports and eliminate the other data that |
| 11 | we've already given you throughout the month. So |
| 12 | that would be an alternative suggestion. |
| 13 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Thank you. |
| 14 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank |
| 15 | you, Mr. Smith. We also have Jay McKeeman from |
| 16 | CIOMA. |
| 17 | MR. McKEEMAN: Good morning. My name is |
| 18 | Jay McKeeman; I'm with the California Independent |
| 19 | Oil Marketers Association, also known as CIOMA. |
| 20 | We do appreciate the efforts of staff in |
| 21 | meeting with us and we have been an active part of |
| 22 | the process of interacting with the agency on |
| 23 | these requirements. |
| 24 | However, we have some very serious |
| 25 | concerns. Our first primarily these reporting |

| 1 | requirements that we're concerned about are the |
|----|--|
| 2 | monthly reporting requirements, and the service |
| 3 | station reporting requirements are reaching a |
| 4 | whole new level of compliance, or people that need |
| 5 | to fill out these forms. |
| 6 | And we have serious concerns about that. |
| 7 | We've expressed those concerns all along. And |
| 8 | we've not been able to resolve those concerns with |
| 9 | staff. So that's why we're here. |
| 10 | I'd like to go through some points on |
| 11 | why we disagree that this requirement is, in fact, |
| 12 | necessary. |
| 13 | The Commission Staff report notes that |
| 14 | SB-1962 is an element of implementing these |
| 15 | requirements. CIOMA was the sponsor of that bill. |
| 16 | And I can tell you personally, and as a result of |
| 17 | our interaction with now Congressman Costa, that |
| 18 | there was no intent, nor was there a requirement |
| 19 | for CIOMA members to have to report under SB-1962. |
| 20 | And if we need to get a letter of intent from |
| 21 | Congressman Costa, we can do that. But there was |
| 22 | no intent or premonition that CIOMA members would |
| 23 | need to report under the elements of SB-1962. |
| 24 | The staff report also lists AB-1340 as |
| 25 | an implementing force for these requirements. |

| 1 | CIOMA was an active participant in the negotiation |
|----|--|
| 2 | of the language, especially regarding the price- |
| 3 | reporting elements. And we received assurances |
| 4 | from Mr. Schremp and Mr. Glaviano that the measure |
| 5 | would not require members of CIOMA to report under |
| 6 | the legislation. They indicated on several |
| 7 | occasions the large number of data that would be |
| 8 | gathered from our members would overwhelm their |
| 9 | system, and it didn't really have a lot of use to |
| 10 | them. So, we do not agree with the staff report |
| 11 | that these requirements are, in fact, mandated by |
| 12 | legislation. In fact, we argue the opposite. |
| 13 | Another problem that we see with the |
| 14 | analysis that's been prepared on these regulations |
| 15 | is that the Energy Commission Staff has not |
| 16 | complied with Government Code section 11346.3 |
| 17 | which requires agencies to estimate the impact on |
| 18 | businesses resulting from regulations. We do not |
| 19 | see any mention of adequate analysis; we're not |
| 20 | aware of any empirical analysis done by staff to |
| 21 | fully investigate the costs of what this record |
| 22 | keeping and reporting requirement would attach to |
| 23 | businesses. And we do not see any evidence that |
| 24 | the Commission thoroughly evaluated the |
| 25 | requirements of 11346.3 in their staff report or |

| 1 | in supporting material. We would argue that this |
|----|--|
| 2 | rulemaking is deficient until it complies with |
| 3 | those requirements. |
| 4 | The information provided with the |
| 5 | reporting forms, and we understand that that's not |
| 6 | part of the regulation, however it is integral in |
| 7 | understanding whether the requirements apply to |
| 8 | our members, and how they apply to the members is |
| 9 | severely deficient. And we've taken a look at |
| 10 | those instructions, and there are many many |
| 11 | questions that they leave unanswered. |
| 12 | The Commission Staff has completely |
| 13 | underestimated the number of companies that would |
| 14 | have to report. And this is something that I'd |
| 15 | like to delve into a little bit right now. |
| 16 | In discussions with staff this morning |
| 17 | we understand that the intent of the reporting |
| 18 | requirement is to apply to only those companies |
| 19 | that are already reporting to the EIA. |
| 20 | Unfortunately, the regulation |
| 21 | establishes a volume threshold, and it's our |
| 22 | understanding in taking a look at the instructions |
| 23 | for the EIA forms, that EIA uses a selected sample |
| 24 | of companies; they don't necessarily use a |
| 25 | reporting threshold. |

| 1 | So it was curious to me as I got |
|----|--|
| 2 | involved in the investigation of who was |
| 3 | reporting. It's sporadic; it depends. EIA makes |
| 4 | up, I guess they tell you that you need to report |
| 5 | to them, and you do, because a number of our |
| 6 | members that are in the that exceed the |
| 7 | reporting threshold are not reporting to EIA right |
| 8 | now. And this would include a new reporting |
| 9 | requirement upon them. |
| 10 | So, we do have very serious concerns. |
| 11 | We believe at least 100 of our members are going |
| 12 | to have to report on these requirements, and that |
| 13 | that's a great variation with the number of |
| 14 | companies that the staff estimated for this |
| 15 | particular reporting form. |
| 16 | We also have concerns that the Energy |
| 17 | Commission is significantly increasing the amount |
| 18 | of data it's collecting, and yet not increasing |
| 19 | the analytical capability of staff. So, there may |
| 20 | be a significant likelihood that this information |
| 21 | gets put into the file and isn't really used in a |
| 22 | constructive manner. And that would be, as far as |
| 23 | we're concerned, a travesty. |
| 24 | We think that the Energy Commission |
| 25 | needs to take a look at what information it would |

| 1 | like to have, and what information it needs to |
|----|--|
| 2 | have. Especially when the information-gathering |
| 3 | process imposes significant costs on our members |
| 4 | and those costs aren't addressed in the staff |
| 5 | report. |
| 6 | I think there needs to be an |
| 7 | understanding that especially for the independent |
| 8 | oil marketer in the state, these are tough times. |
| 9 | And that the Commission should be looking at ways |
| 10 | in how to reduce the costs to those in the |
| 11 | business, rather than increase the costs and the |
| 12 | complexity of being in the business. |
| 13 | The independents are struggling. There |
| 14 | are many many other costs that they have to absorb |
| 15 | in relation to state and federal mandates. This |
| 16 | is only one of them. But at some point there is |
| 17 | going to be a straw, and I hope this one isn't it. |
| 18 | We would like the Commission to postpone |
| 19 | the adoption of this regulation. We believe there |
| 20 | are some issues that need to be worked out about |
| 21 | who's reporting under EIA; who is not reporting |
| 22 | under EIA; how the regulation language needs to |
| 23 | conform with that intent, rather than just a |
| 24 | straight volume assessment. And we also would |
| 25 | like to see additional economic analysis put into |

| 1 | the evaluation of this and presented to the |
|----|--|
| 2 | Commission as part of their consideration. |
| 3 | That's it. |
| 4 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Madam Chair. |
| 5 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Yes, |
| 6 | Commissioner Geesman. |
| 7 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I'd like to ask |
| 8 | the General Counsel's Office if it could respond |
| 9 | to the concern expressed that the staff did not |
| 10 | comply with Government Code section 11346.3 |
| 11 | requiring the business impact analysis. |
| 12 | MR. GLAVIANO: Yes, that physical |
| 13 | application was filled out and approved by the |
| 14 | Department of Finance prior to the submitting of |
| 15 | the information to the Office of Administrative |
| 16 | Law. Sue Kateley has some of the numbers |
| 17 | associated with that. I think you would need to |
| 18 | take a look at it, but |
| 19 | MS. KATELEY: We had estimated about two |
| 20 | to three hours to complete a form maximum. That |
| 21 | was less than \$150 per small businesses. The |
| 22 | fiscal impact analysis applied to just small |
| 23 | businesses. So, companies that were considered |
| 24 | large businesses were not part of the |
| 25 | consideration. |

| 1 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Thank you. |
|----|--|
| 2 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank |
| 3 | you, Mr. McKeeman. We'll take the last commenter |
| 4 | on this and then perhaps ask if there are |
| 5 | additional responses. Ron Van De Pol. |
| 6 | MR. VAN DE POL: Good morning, |
| 7 | Commissioners. Thank you for the time to give a |
| 8 | marketer's point of view from our business. I'm a |
| 9 | second generation marketer. Our business was |
| 10 | started in 1959. We serve all classes of trade |
| 11 | that the monitoring report is requesting that we |
| 12 | require information on. That being retail service |
| 13 | stations, both branded and unbranded, governmental |
| 14 | agencies, commercial businesses, agriculture. We |
| 15 | supply every facet of that. |
| 16 | And while WSPA and bp have said that |
| 17 | they appreciate working through this with the |
| 18 | staff, I've got to tell you, from a marketer's |
| 19 | point of view, it's an unnecessary thing that we |
| 20 | feel is just another report we're going to have to |
| 21 | submit with no value. |
| 22 | And I'd like to go into the reasons for |
| 23 | that. Gallonage figures are something we live by. |
| 24 | And those are easy. We have reports, we can break |
| 25 | them down fairly easily and make the report. |

| 1 | But, this monitoring report is requiring |
|----|--|
| 2 | pricing information. Let me you know, I don't |
| 3 | want to go into too much detail, but I want to |
| 4 | give you an example of for us, we supply 60 |
| 5 | branded stations. Each one has a different price |
| 6 | almost every day because they're in a variety of |
| 7 | areas. |
| 8 | And we supply 400 commercial accounts, |
| 9 | farming, whatever. We deliver 40 to 60 deliveries |
| 10 | a day. Those vary in price, depending upon the |
| 11 | size of the delivery, the distance that we have to |
| 12 | go. |
| 13 | And so on the reporting form you have |
| 14 | all these categories. And it's volume by class of |
| 15 | trade. And then you have price. Okay. So we |
| 16 | take, you know, 1200 deliveries, and over a month |
| 17 | you add them all up, divide by whatever number it |
| 18 | is, what value is that number? |
| 19 | I can tell you today I looked at all of |
| 20 | our station pricing and that pricing varies today |
| 21 | by 19 cents a gallon from one to the other. And |
| 22 | that's just in the service station portion. You |
| 23 | go to the wholesale it's a totally different |
| 24 | pricing mechanism. |
| 25 | We look at the cost of that as being |
| | |

| 1 | not, aside from having to reprogram, if we can do |
|----|--|
| 2 | that, and still manually have to do some of these |
| 3 | things. It's going to cost us at least \$30,000 a |
| 4 | year. Now that may not seem much to people in the |
| 5 | audience, but it's significant with a marketer who |
| 6 | is struggling with high prices; suppliers saying |
| 7 | you have an extended credit line, you can't go any |
| 8 | more; the bank saying, hey, we can't give you any |
| 9 | more, either. |
| 10 | We're watching our pennies and quarters |
| 11 | of a penny. You know, people ask me, well, what's |
| 12 | your profit margin. And I go, if we can eke out 1 |
| 13 | percent at the end of a year in our net that's |
| 14 | been a fantastic year. |
| 15 | So every penny we spend on producing |
| 16 | reports and reporting takes away from our limited |
| 17 | bottomline. |
| 18 | It's been brought up, as Mr. McKeeman |
| 19 | said, that staff is saying well, this is only in |
| 20 | the EIA report, and that's who we're structuring |
| 21 | towards. As Jay said, that's a selected sampling, |
| 22 | okay. So right now I don't report, and I meet the |
| 23 | threshold. But, so it's not going to cost me |
| 24 | anything today. But when the EIA changes their |
| 25 | selective sampling and I'm required to report to |
| | |

| 1 | them, then I've got to do the same thing. |
|----|---|
| 2 | It's a cost that I don't see how pricing |
| 3 | information the staff is going to be able to |
| 4 | assimilate. And then you look at the volatility |
| 5 | of the pricing market, you have from one end of |
| 6 | the month to the other you can have a 40-cent-a- |
| 7 | gallon increase or decrease. So you price average |
| 8 | again. What value is that to determining how |
| 9 | California gets their product out? |
| 10 | Thank you. |
| 11 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank |
| 12 | you. Questions from the Commissioners? |
| 13 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: Well, I'd like to |
| 14 | hear the staff's response to the last gentleman's |
| 15 | concerns with regard to the price data either |
| 16 | being not useful or bordering on worthless. I'd |
| 17 | like to hear the response. |
| 18 | And frankly, while I've got the mike, |
| 19 | I'd like to also go back and have a little more |
| 20 | response to the concerns that CIOMA raised with |
| 21 | regard to the intent of the legislation and any |
| 22 | commitments that staff might have given, and see |
| 23 | if there's an understanding or misunderstanding |
| 24 | there. |
| 25 | ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MATTHEWS: Let |

| 1 | me, before technical staff responds, let me do a |
|----|--|
| 2 | little bit of overview; step back a little bit |
| 3 | about why we're here, why are we looking for this |
| 4 | data, what's the use of this data. |
| 5 | As you all are well aware we're facing |
| 6 | an increasingly tight fuels market. There are |
| 7 | increasing demands on the Energy Commission to |
| 8 | provide accurate, timely information to support |
| 9 | situations when we have gasoline and other fuels |
| 10 | disruption. But also to provide information on |
| 11 | policies and legislation that have been, and I |
| 12 | would imagine, will be forthcoming again as prices |
| 13 | get high, so that we have the facts about how the |
| 14 | market is really working. And that we end up with |
| 15 | a well functioning market rather than some of the |
| 16 | Draconian measures that have been proposed in the |
| 17 | past. |
| 18 | My general view is that a lot of the |
| 19 | issues that have been raised we can resolve in |
| 20 | working on revising the forms. And the staff will |
| 21 | try to resolve any duplication issues so that you |
| 22 | aren't so that the industry is maximizing the |
| 23 | amount of impact they have for the amount of work |
| 24 | they're doing. |
| 25 | We did put in and I appreciate the |

| 1 | support, for more resources we did put in BCP |
|----|--|
| 2 | and it's working its way through the Legislature |
| 3 | for two more PY to support the effort specifically |
| 4 | to deal with this particular set of data. |
| 5 | And see what the technical staff's |
| 6 | response to the other questions are. |
| 7 | Oh, one other factor. We'd be more than |
| 8 | willing to come back in a year, after we've had a |
| 9 | chance to experience the situation, and review |
| 10 | what's worked and what hasn't worked, and |
| 11 | recommend any changes to the regulations to make |
| 12 | it more effective. |
| 13 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I'd like to |
| 14 | encourage that last point. |
| 15 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Are |
| 16 | there further staff responses to any of the |
| 17 | comments we've heard? |
| 18 | MR. SCHREMP: Sure, I'll Gordon |
| 19 | Schremp, again. With regard to the comments by |
| 20 | Mr. Van De Pol on the variability of the data, the |
| 21 | price series in the month, we acknowledge that |
| 22 | there is a great deal of variability in price |
| 23 | information by location, by date in a monthly |
| 24 | period. |
| 25 | We do collect other price information on |

| 1 | a statewide basis through other price services to |
|----|--|
| 2 | understand the degree of volatility that is |
| 3 | occurring in California's marketplace. |
| 4 | I think the stronger value of the |
| 5 | monthly reporting form in coming up with an |
| 6 | average price is to compare months over periods of |
| 7 | time, recognizing that price volatility does exist |
| 8 | in all months. Price volatility may be greater |
| 9 | now than it has been say ten years ago. And price |
| 10 | volatility may be greater in specific months |
| 11 | occurring on a seasonal basis. |
| 12 | So we understand there's a volatility |
| 13 | element in the monthly averages that is not |
| 14 | captured in these forms, and we acknowledge that. |
| 15 | But we think the forms have other uses, looking at |
| 16 | what average prices are, we think there's validity |
| 17 | in comparing those across different years and |
| 18 | different months and seasons, as well. |
| 19 | But we do acknowledge that, yes, for |
| 20 | volatility it does not capture that very well |
| 21 | whatsoever. |
| 22 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: Gordon, that's a |
| 23 | fairly broad answer, though. And I agree with |
| 24 | some of what you said. But when you get down to |
| 25 | the specifics with regard to what marketers have |
| | |

| 1 | to report, you know, what the gentleman with the |
|----|--|
| 2 | fairly small business says he has to report, and |
| 3 | the value of the data, are you saying the answer |
| 4 | you gave applies specifically to even this niche |
| 5 | of the whole fuel chain? |
| 6 | MR. SCHREMP: I think I'll back up, |
| 7 | Commissioner Boyd, a little bit and go back to the |
| 8 | intent of which we mentioned and has been |
| 9 | acknowledged by CIOMA and Mr. Van De Pol, that our |
| 10 | intent is to collect the information from those |
| 11 | companies that are and should be reporting to the |
| 12 | federal government. |
| 13 | Our form is almost identical to the |
| 14 | federal form, except that we do break out our rack |
| 15 | price sales into branded and unbranded per |
| 16 | legislation. So our intent was not to create an |
| 17 | additional class of reporting entities to us, |
| 18 | which would incur additional burdens because they |
| 19 | have never been reporting in the past. |
| 20 | Our intent has been and is to collect |
| 21 | the information from those currently reporting to |
| 22 | the federal government. In other words, it's |
| 23 | almost a data transfer. Because they are |
| 24 | undertaking this activity and they just transpose |
| 25 | the numbers to our form, except for |

| 1 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: But what about the |
|----|---|
| 2 | element he just raised of the federal report is a |
| 3 | random sample basis, i.e., obviously it moves |
| 4 | around the country depending upon EIA's desire to |
| 5 | change its sample? |
| 6 | So it sounds to me, and I just learned |
| 7 | this today in this hearing, that a lot of people |
| 8 | don't report, probably the majority don't. Some |
| 9 | small minority do. And that will change over time |
| 10 | if they want to keep their sample base fairly |
| 11 | valid by changing who they sample. How do you |
| 12 | reconcile that dilemma? |
| 13 | MR. SCHREMP: Well, we do understand |
| 14 | that EIA endeavors to obtain that representative |
| 15 | samples from the different markets. Market |
| 16 | participants do change over the year. Mr. Van De |
| 17 | Pol's company has been around a long time, so he |
| 18 | hasn't changed. |
| 19 | But there are new entrants that go into |
| 20 | the marketplace and there are companies that do |
| 21 | exit the marketplace. So EIA is trying to obtain |
| 22 | a representative sample. |
| 23 | They are struggling with the vast number |
| 24 | of participants in this class of trade. And |
| 25 | understand the diminishing return to get every |
| | |

| 1 | single drop, or attempt to do so. So they weight |
|----|--|
| 2 | if off. That's why they do have representative |
| 3 | sample. And we think that is good enough for our |
| 4 | purposes, as well. |
| 5 | And with regard to your specific |
| 6 | question, and that raised by Mr. Van De Pol, what |
| 7 | if all of a sudden in the future I now am required |
| 8 | by the federal government to report. That would |
| 9 | incur additional costs to comply with that federal |
| 10 | requirement as well as our requirement. |
| 11 | We do agree with that, and so we have |
| 12 | not specifically put into our analysis those |
| 13 | additional companies that could come aboard that |
| 14 | would be a new reporting entity that never ever |
| 15 | reported to the federal government before. And we |
| 16 | have not done that, sir. |
| 17 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: Well, my concern, I |
| 18 | guess, is that the industry has accepted, whether |
| 19 | they like it or not, the fact that, you know, that |
| 20 | EIA plays roulette, and the field will change. |
| 21 | And they're willing to take that gamble. |
| 22 | But I guess we're going to require the |
| 23 | same data of everybody on a continuing basis. And |
| 24 | that is a cost. I'm glad Mr. Matthews gave his |
| 25 | comment introducing why we're even considering |

| 1 | this. I, more than anyone sitting up here, have |
|----|--|
| 2 | been through gasoline price issues over decades |
| 3 | now, and am very sensitive to what's happened in |
| 4 | the last several years over price spikiness and |
| 5 | the concerns of the Legislature and the public and |
| 6 | the desire for more visibility in this arena. |
| 7 | Which I think we all deserve. |
| 8 | But, you know, I don't want to over- |
| 9 | burden, particularly small businesses, with things |
| 10 | that are nice, but are questionable in terms of |
| 11 | their validity. So I'm a little stuck on that |
| 12 | one. But I'm also sympathetic to the earlier |
| 13 | suggestion that we have a shakedown cruise of |
| 14 | maybe six months in length to see what's good and |
| 15 | what's not and so on and so forth. So maybe we |
| 16 | can work it out there. |
| 17 | My other question was regarding Mr. |
| 18 | McKeeman's comments about the intent of the |
| 19 | legislation and the commitment that may or may not |
| 20 | have been made by staff of this agency. Do you |
| 21 | want to respond to that? |
| 22 | MR. SCHREMP: Yes, Commissioner Boyd. |
| 23 | I'm not quite sure, maybe Mr. McKeeman can |
| 24 | clarify, but it's my understanding that initially |
| 25 | in our process we were looking at collecting |
| | |

| 1 | dealer tank wagon or delivered wholesale price to |
|----|--|
| 2 | retail outlets from the industry. |
| 3 | There was a concern raised by Mr. |
| 4 | McKeeman that did you mean all industry. And we |
| 5 | responded by saying no, we intended to only |
| 6 | collect the DTW from refiners. And there was a |
| 7 | concern because we had not, he had not seen |
| 8 | language that that was going to be the case in |
| 9 | terms of the reporting forms and in the |
| 10 | instructions on who should be providing the |
| 11 | information. |
| 12 | Subsequent to those conversations and |
| 13 | commitments, we put into the regulatory package in |
| 14 | the language in there specifically calling out |
| 15 | that the people who would be providing information |
| 16 | on the weekly and monthly basis for dealer tank |
| 17 | wagon would only be the refiners per our |
| 18 | definition in the regulations. So we clarified in |
| 19 | that document that he has been able to review on a |
| 20 | couple of occasions. |
| 21 | So I believe that is one of the issues |
| 22 | that was raised, and that was one of the |
| 23 | commitments that was mentioned that we did abide |
| 24 | by. |
| 25 | And I think we've already covered the |

| 1 | ground on the 782 form that we proposed to collect |
|----|--|
| 2 | for sales by class of trade by end-use customer |
| 3 | that we are trying to get from the CIOMA members |
| 4 | who are currently providing said information to |
| 5 | the federal government. |
| 6 | MR. GLAVIANO: May I just ask this |
| 7 | clarification? If Ron Van De Pol's company does |
| 8 | not report to the federal government today, are |
| 9 | they required to report to us with these |
| 10 | regulations? |
| 11 | MR. SCHREMP: No. |
| 12 | MR. GLAVIANO: So only if they are |
| 13 | reporting to the federal government thank you |
| 14 | for that thoughtful answer |
| 15 | (Laughter.) |
| 16 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: Is that really clear |
| 17 | in the regulation? Apparently since we've had |
| 18 | such consternation today |
| 19 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Right, |
| 20 | that seems to |
| 21 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: I was confused |
| 22 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Yeah, |
| 23 | that seems to be a point of confusion here. I |
| 24 | just want to make sure that that's the |
| 25 | understanding, and that is what the regulations |
| | |

67 1 say. 2 MR. SCHREMP: I believe that the 3 regulations as they are currently written do not 4 specifically state it is only those providing 5 information to EIA. So, based on the 6 conversations we've had here this morning, there needs to be clarification in that document, yes, to specifically state that is our intent. 8 9 ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank 10 you, I think that's important. I'd like to see if we're ready to act on 11 12 this item. I think that we did hear a strong, 13 both reason for doing and requirement for gathering data. But I think there remains some 14 15 concern about the form and the format and the 16 timing. 17 So, perhaps in a motion then we can not only have the clarification we just agreed to, but 18 19 a clarification that this will be re-examined perhaps by the Executive Director in a period of 20 21 like six months. Because I think that that would give us enough time to see what's happening. And 22 then bring a report back to the Commission at that 23 24 time. 25 COMMISSIONER BOYD: Madam Chair, I'd

like to bring up one additional item before

2 someone makes a motion.

staff has that.

3 ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL:

4 Certainly.

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5 COMMISSIONER BOYD: We were just handed 6 a few moments ago an email from Chevron raising 7 questions about the diagrams. And hopefully the

Mr. Schremp gave a much better answer to that question earlier in the day than admittedly is in the staff response. I had concerns. I guess, as one Commissioner who has some specific duties in the terrorism public safety arena, maybe more than most, I am very sensitive to the revealing of detailed data about our infrastructure or the operations of refineries, but I did think the response relative to the fact that that information is provided for public safety reasons, and that we have a good track

record, as established by Mr. Geesman, of protecting confidentiality, that kind of satisfied my concern a little better than the staff

23 response.

However, now we have yet another

industry member raising that same concern. So, I

| 1 | think I'm satisfied with the staff response, but I |
|----|--|
| 2 | am I just want to register some degree of |
| 3 | concern. |
| 4 | I mean, as some of you know, we're going |
| 5 | to go through an emergency exercise tomorrow |
| 6 | involving the transportation fuel arena here in |
| 7 | California. And there is, of course, concern |
| 8 | about just how much we publicize how to damage |
| 9 | ourselves. |
| 10 | So it is a concern, but I think we, as |
| 11 | an agency, have an excellent track record in |
| 12 | protecting that concern. So at the moment I am |
| 13 | persuaded by the staff's point on that issue. |
| 14 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Thank |
| 15 | you, Commissioner Boyd. |
| 16 | Do we have a motion on this item? |
| 17 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I'll move it, |
| 18 | Madam Chair. |
| 19 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: I'll second it. |
| 20 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Moved |
| 21 | and seconded. |
| 22 | All in favor? |
| 23 | (Ayes.) |
| 24 | ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: |
| 25 | Opposed? Passed four to nothing. |
| | |

70 COMMISSIONER BOYD: Excuse me, but did 1 2 we --COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I think we 3 4 extracted a commitment from --5 ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: Yes. 6 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: -- the Executive Director to report back to us. And you and the 8 Chair have made clear that that's to be in six 9 months. 10 COMMISSIONER BOYD: Good. ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: And 11 we'll confirm that. Mr. Matthews, that's --13 ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MATTHEWS: 14 Yes. ACTING CHAIRPERSON PFANNENSTIEL: --15 understood? Thank you. 16

MS. KATELEY: Thank you.

17

[BUSINESS MEETING ITEMS NOT RELATED TO THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY INFORMATION ACT HAVE BEEN REDACTED FROM THIS COPY OF THE TRANSCRIPT]